

Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of this application is requested in view of the amendment to the claims presented hereinabove and the remarks that follow hereinafter.

Original claim 12 was inadvertently listed as claim 13. This error has been corrected by renumbering claims 13 – 17 as claims 12 – 16.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Phuly et al. These claims have been canceled, thus their rejection is now believed moot.

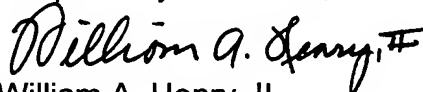
Claims 9 – 16 are allowed.

Claims 3, 5 and 6 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 3 and 5 have been amended to include the limitations of base claim 1, therefore, both claims should be allowed. Claim 6 has been canceled.

In summary, all of the claims remaining in the application are either allowed or have been placed into condition for allowance, therefore, an early indication of allowance of this application is earnestly solicited.

A telephone interview is respectfully requested at the number listed below prior to any further Office Action, i.e., if the Examiner has any remaining questions or issues to address after this paper. The undersigned will be happy to discuss any further Examiner-proposed amendments as may be appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,



William A. Henry, II
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 26,403
Telephone (585) 385-3798

WAH